

01 NCAC 26B.0106 is proposed for amendment as follows:

01 NCAC 26B .0106 DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

The Veterans Affairs Commission delegates to the Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs the responsibility for obtaining information and making recommendations of applications for scholarship awards which the Commission ~~commission~~ administers. The following procedure has been set by the Commission ~~commission~~ for use by the Assistant assistant Secretary secretary in reviewing applications:

- (1) ~~Interested parties may obtain application for scholarship blanks from district service officer, county service officer, or the assistant secretary's office. A sheet of instructions is given to each applicant for a scholarship and assistance is available from the service officer.~~ Interested parties may obtain application for scholarship blank forms and an instruction sheet from the Assistant Secretary's Office or electronically. Assistance is available from veterans service offices.
- (2) ~~Completed application, together with a copy of the public record of applicant's birth, a copy of veteran's discharge or notice of separation from the armed service (if available) and letters of recommendation must be mailed to the assistant secretary's office, preferably prior to May first.~~ Completed application, together with a copy of the public record of applicant's birth, evidence of veteran's biological or adoptive relationship to applicant (which may be shown on birth certificate, court documents, payment of child support or DNA test), copy of veteran's discharge or notice of separation from the armed services (if available), authorization for release of information, financial questionnaire, most recent federal income tax return filed, high school transcript and college transcript (through junior year of high school or if already graduated for all semesters attended of high school and college), recommendations and essay submissions, must be received by the Assistant Secretary's Office on or before February 14.
- (3) Upon receipt of application, the Assistant assistant Secretary's secretary's Office office will request necessary information from the appropriate Veterans Administration office.
- (4) Upon receipt of Veterans Administration's certification, such certification, birth certificate and discharge from armed services and other information will be carefully checked to determine if eligibility requirements of the law are met. For purposes of G.S.165-20(3), applicant must be under age 25 at the time of application for scholarship which is the earlier of either:
 - (a) the date received in the NCDVA Assistant Secretary's Office as evidenced by NCDVA date stamp or,
 - (b) the US Postal Service date identification or,
 - (c) the processing date identification from any other federal or state recognized mail carrier system that delivers mail.
- (5) If the Veterans Administration certification and other information indicates that residential requirements of the law or the necessary degree of disability is not met, the applicant and district

service ~~office officer~~ will be so informed and the applicant will be offered the assistance of the service ~~office officer~~ in submitting further evidence.

~~(6) A report of information and investigation will then be requested from the district service officer. The district service officers will be instructed as to what types of information their reports should contain.~~

~~(7) Reports from district service officers will be sent to the assistant secretary's office.~~

~~(6) 8) The sheet of instructions which is sent to each applicant with application for scholarship forms makes it clear that each applicant is responsible for ensuring that his complete scholastic record is received at the Assistant Secretary's Office, North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs, Raleigh, North Carolina, as soon as possible after his graduation from high school to be considered in connection with possible scholarship awards. (This applies to all types of scholarship applications.) For further processing of applications, upon completion, each applicant must provide to the Assistant Secretary's Office a copy of the previous year's federal income tax return and, if male, copy of Selective Service registration acknowledgment. Also, on or before June 30, applicants must provide to the Assistant Secretary's Office a copy of their high school diploma, NCDVA-11 (Affidavit-School Declaration), letter of acceptance for the school that applicant seeks to attend, and complete scholastic record (including but not limited to list of high school and college courses taken with corresponding grades earned, cumulative weighted and unweighted grade point average, attendance and disciplinary records). The Instruction Sheet makes it clear that each applicant is responsible for ensuring the Assistant Secretary's Office receives these documents timely.~~

~~(79)~~ In making recommendations for the awarding of scholarships in the competitive categories, the ~~Assistant assistant Secretary secretary~~ will consider the disability and other eligibility requirements of each application in accordance with the standards enumerated in G.S. 165-22 and make his ~~or her~~ recommendations to members of the ~~Commission commission~~ based on the following criteria, and importance shall attach in the order named:

- (a) Need. Preference shall be given to the eligible child with the greater financial need. (In cases where the parent has considerable property, attention of the ~~Commission commission~~ shall be called to this fact, if such application is recommended for a scholarship award.)
- (b) Scholastic Ability. Preference shall be given the eligible child with the higher scholastic award.
- (c) Consideration shall be given to the character, reputation, industry, accomplishments, and handicaps (if any) of the eligible child.
- (d) All other things being equal, the degree of service connected disability shall be given preference.

(810) Upon confirmation of the members of the Commission ~~commission~~, the applicant and other interested parties will be notified as to the disposition made of their application. The Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs is authorized to award class I and IV (unlimited scholarships) to any other applicant who meets all ~~eligibility~~ eligibility requirements under class I or IV twice annually, on or about January 1 and July 1 ~~between meetings of the commission~~. These awards are then ratified by the Commission ~~commission~~ at its next meeting.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 143B-252(4); 143B-399(4); 165-22.1(a);
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. February 27, 1979.*